



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s):	Friddle <i>et al.</i>	Group Art Unit:	1647
Application No.:	09/898,456	Examiner:	R. Hayes
Filed:	07/03/2001	Atty. Docket No.:	LEX-0198-USA
Title: Novel Human Secreted Signal Proteins and Polynucleotides Encoding the Same			

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on February 9, 2004, which has been carefully reviewed and studied. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the rejections in the Action in the same order in which they were originally raised.

A Petition for an Extension of Time of three months to and including August 9, 2004, and authorization to deduct the fee as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3) from Applicants' representatives Deposit Account are included. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees in addition to the fee for the extension of time are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additionally required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.

**RESPONSE**

**I. Status of the Claims**

No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1, 5 and 9-11 are therefore presently pending in the case.